

3. The Planning Process

In 2003, FCFD received a grant to develop a WUIFMP. A consultant was hired to assist in the preparation of the plan. The consultant worked with the WUIFMP Planning Group to develop a Scope of Work and tentative time schedule. The Scope of Work planned for citizen involvement. The goals of citizen involvement are:

- Inspire the public to action
- Understand community based concerns
- Raise awareness

3.1 Information/Comment Handouts

Questionnaires were distributed door to door in the interface areas to 220 homes. Also, questionnaire data was collected at a booth during the County Fair. A 17% response from those contacted was received. The data from these questionnaires were used in the problem identification process, value at-risk and hazard prioritization processes. The questionnaires included information about wildland urban interface fires and why this data was being collected.

Together with the questionnaire data collection, information handouts describing what home owners could do to protect their property were also distributed.

1. What town or community do you live in, or closest to?

Community	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Cub River	6	17.14%	17.14%
Maple Creek	3	8.57%	25.71%
Mink Creek	3	8.57%	34.28%
Cotton Wood Creek	1	2.86%	37.14%
Oxford	5	14.29%	51.43%
Dayton	1	2.86%	54.29%
Preston	7	20.00%	74.29%
Weston	4	11.43%	85.72%
Glendale	1	2.86%	88.58%
Riverdale	4	11.43%	100%
Total	35		

2. How great a risk do you think wildfires pose to your residence? (Please circle one response.)

Risk	Cub River	Maple Creek	Mink Creek	Cotton Wood	Oxford	Dayton	Preston	Weston	Glendale	Riverdale	Total
None	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slight	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	2	1	2	12
Moderate	4	1	0	0	3	1	2	1	0	1	13
High	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	7
Very High	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3

3. Would your insurance cover all of this fire loss?

Insured?	Cub River	Maple Creek	Mink Creek	Cotton Wood	Oxford	Dayton	Preston	Weston	Glendale	Riverdale	Total
Yes	5	1	1	0	4	0	2	2	0	2	17
No	1	2	2	1	1	1	5	2	1	1	17
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

**4. What areas around your community do you think are extreme fire hazards?
(Frequency of written response)**

- ☐ None (1)
- ☐ Uncut fields with dry weeds (6)
- ☐ Dry foothills (13)
- ☐ Canyons (2)
- ☐ Dry Roadside grass (1)
- ☐ Cub River Area (3)
- ☐ Forest Areas (4)
- ☐ Hay Stacks (1)
- ☐ Oneida Narrows (2)
- ☐ Weston Canyon (2)

5. What do you think might be the best way to reduce (mitigate), these hazards?

- ☐ Nothing (1)
- ☐ Mow dry fields (5)
- ☐ People playing with fire (1)
- ☐ Controlled Burns (2)
- ☐ Graze Grass (4)
- ☐ Landscape Education (2)
- ☐ More Fire Stations (2)
- ☐ Restrict burning and Camp fires (2)
- ☐ Spray weeds (2)
- ☐ Clean around structures (1)
- ☐ Mow roadsides (1)
- ☐ Public Awareness (2)
- ☐ More rain (1)

6. Do you know of any recent actions or education programs taken by your community, the county, etc., to reduce the risk of wildland fires or to protect residents from wildfires spreading from public land to private?

Yes	4
No	31

If "yes", what was the nature of the action or program(s)?

- ☐ Teaching School Children fire safety (2)
- ☐ Citizens mowing side of road

Who sponsored it, and when?

- ☐ Fire Department (2)
- ☐ Unknown (2)

7. Besides residences and community buildings, please list other locations or properties (may or may not be a structure) that have high environmental, cultural, or economic value that you feel should be a priority for fire risk reduction.

- ☐ No response (8)
- ☐ The entire valley (1)
- ☐ Forested Areas (5)
- ☐ Wildlife habitat (3)
- ☐ Campground in the Forest (2)
- ☐ Indian Grounds (1)
- ☐ CRP fields (2)
- ☐ Homes (1)
- ☐ Schools (1)
- ☐ Churches (1)
- ☐ Crops (1)

8. Do you think your community is adequately prepared to combat wildland fires?

Yes	13
No	22

If you answered "no", what do you think could be done to improve your town's/subdivision's firefighting capabilities?

- ☐ Don't know (1)
- ☐ More Equipment (4)
- ☐ Better response time (1)
- ☐ More fire stations (4)
- ☐ Call in the reserves (1)
- ☐ Professional fire fighters (2)
- ☐ Public education (2)
- ☐ Pressure water system (3)
- ☐ Weed control (1)
- ☐ Call US Forest Service (2)
- ☐ Fire Hydrant in Glendale is never checked (1)

To summarize the comments from the questionnaires:

- 50% of the residences in Franklin County are fully insured for the loss by fire
- Nearly 71% feel the risk of wildfire is between slight and moderately high
- 69 % feel that the risk of wildfire is from Dry Weeds and Uncut Grasses
- 63% feel we are not prepared for wildfires.
- Top ways to be prepared for wildfires were: More equipment and fire stations

3.2 Workshop Series

Workshops were conducted in July and August. The first workshop series was to identify problems. Citizens and agencies were asked to identify problems and strategies related to wildland urban interface fire hazards, risks and issues. Information provided was used to help the committee develop a set of preliminary actions.

A second workshop was conducted for public review of the draft set of goals developed by the planning committee.

3.3 Planning Committee Meetings

Planning Committee meeting minutes are in the appendix. In brief:

The first meeting, held 7/7/04, was an introduction and organizational meeting;

The second committee, held 7/21/04, was open to the Public Meeting for to gather their ideas, the committee reviewed the format of the questionnaires, problems identified, equipment inventories, and a draft set of goals;

The third meeting, held 8/4/04 the committee identified goals to mitigate the areas of risk;

The fourth meeting, held 8/18/04, was open to the Public Meeting for to gather their ideas, the committee agreed on the goals and priorities presented;

The Fifth meeting, held 9/1/04, the committee reviews "Mitigation Strategy and Implementation"; and

The Sixth and final meeting, held 9/15/04, the committee reviewed the Draft Plan.

3.4 Public Review

One final public meeting was held by the Planning Committee to receive public comment on the draft plan. At the conclusion of that meeting the committee made a recommendation of approval.